

Hadley Starer

May 4, 2008

Bud Not Buddy Reflection

In the book, Bud Not Buddy my mom and I learned that people should never give up on their life's journey. Bud experienced some horrid and harmful situations in his life, for example living with the Amos. He was treated poorly at their house. Bud was smart and made good choices to remove himself from that living situation. His instinct was to escape to the library. My mom thinks that the library was a good place to go, because it is a safe place and full of education, adventure and hope. When Bud was still at the library his friend Bugs wanted him to go on the train with him, but Bud said, "No"! I think that Bud was smart to say no, because he went to go look for his family which was the right thing to do. Bud was found on the side of the road by a great man named Lefty Lewis. Mr. Lewis knew Mr. Callaway who Bud thought was his dad, because of the photo that his mother had given him. In the end Mr. Callaway ended up being his grandfather.

In our reflection of the book, my mom and I found that Bud was a person who made good choices, and was full of character and integrity. Since Bud was black it was harder for him to go through life. Due to his strong and positive qualities he was able to succeed in his journey. My mom and I also believe that Mr. Callaway was a good man because he had a good heart. He started crying once he found out that his daughter had died. That really showed who he was on the inside. Accepting Bud into his life, showed he wanted to keep his memory of his daughter alive. This was a great book and I know that my mom and I extremely enjoyed this book's journey.

Bud, Not Buddy

By Christopher Paul Curtis

During an interview on Bud, Not Buddy, my mom and I discussed favorite characteristics of Bud and the others around him. We also discussed our favorite parts and overall people.

Though we both liked the book, we enjoyed it for different reasons. My mom liked it because it was historical fiction and because the main character was the same age as her own son, and I liked it because it was an exciting and energetic book. We both thought the human blood scene was a laugh, and I thought an additional great part was the jumping in and out of Flint seven times. Our least favorite parts both involved the foster family, but mine was with the pencil going up the nose, and my mom's was the foster family locking Bud in the shed.

My mom and I both agreed that Bud's courage, strength and conviction were very developed for his age, and this fact stood out to both of us. The author used the simile of seed to oak tree throughout the story, and this made it easy for the reader to follow along the road of Bud's personal growth.

Throughout the book the author demonstrates Bud's characteristics in this engaging tale of hope, determination and growth. We both thought highly of the book and think the word "engaging" might barely do it justice. It displayed an assortment of emotions to the reader, including pity for Bud, hope from people like the band, and shamefulness at how we used to treat people who we now know as our equals. Most of these emotions were hard to miss, and we both felt almost all of them.

Jack Greene

Bud Not Buddy Interview Reflection

By Brianna Senft

My mom and I had a very good interview; we really got intrigued with what we each said.

On the first question when I asked “Did you enjoy the book?”, she said she liked it because Bud was really nice and innocent and he made you want to read more; I felt the same way. The event that stood out to her was when Bud went to the log cabin and was really happy to be there. Before he even knew that he was going to stay there, he felt like he was home.

In the interview one of the questions that stood out to me was: “What was your favorite part?” My mom’s favorite part was when the band members gave him the saxophone and kind of accepted him as their band member. My favorite part was when Bud poured water on Todd and Todd wet the bed, because his mom didn’t like bed wetter’s!

Another question that was memorable was, “What is your opinion of Mr. Calloway?” my mom answered that sometimes he was impatient with people like his daughter. For example, he was pushing his daughter and wasn’t having any patience because he wanted the best for her but in the end he pushed her a little bit too hard so she ran away.

All and all, I think Bud Not Buddy was a very good book! Apparently so did my mom!

Bud, Not Buddy

My Mom and I read the book Bud, Not Buddy. We both thoroughly enjoyed the book for different reasons. Mom thinks that Bud is honest but has to survive and that sometimes leads to dishonesty. My view of this is that Bud is not really that honest because he writes rules on lying and if you count how many times Bud lied in the book you'd be there for a while. We agree that Bud had so many events in his little life that when someone says "we need to sit down" he automatically thinks something bad happened, so I feel pity for this boy who doesn't know what a peaceful life is. We disagreed on Mr. Calloway. I thought that soon after Bud comforted Mr. Calloway he looked back and thought how good of Bud that was to do that. Mom thought Mr. Calloway would never think of that until he was more comfortable having Bud around. Then we got to discussing Jimmy. Mom thought that Bud trying to reassure Jimmy would make a difference when he went to the foster parents. I looked at the other side of that and Bud is beating himself up telling how he is so unlucky and he would gladly switch places. That really shows Bud's character that he scares himself to make another child he barely knows feel good.

The reflection of Bud not Buddy

By Elyssa Anneser

When I sat down and asked Mr. Ferguson the questions about the book “Bud Not Buddy,” we discussed the characteristics of the character Bud. We talked about how Bud was determined to find his father, but the man he ended up finding was his grandfather. We agreed that on his journey he was not shy, and that he did not get angry very often. Through out the book Bud had showed different characteristics, but there was only one time when he got mad, and that was at Mr. Calloway. In this part of the book when Mr. Calloway picked up a rock and Bud showed him his own rocks, Bud knew that Mr. Calloway was his father, but Mr. Calloway was mad because he thought that Bud stolen his rocks. Bud had been very caring for Mr. Calloway when Mr. Calloway was very sad. Bud would comfort him by putting his hand on Mr. Calloway’s shoulder.

It was at the very end of the book Bud found out that Mr. Calloway was not his father but instead his grandfather.

Bud Not Buddy

Bud and Mr. Calloway have the same idea about rules. They both think that rules are really important and will make your life better. I noticed that Bud's rules are silly and complicated. He has so many he could never keep track of them all. You would have to write them down or put them on a computer to remember them. My mom said that Mr. Calloway probably regrets having been so strict about his rules with his daughter. We both think he won't be so strict with Bud.

From the beginning of the book, everything that happens to Bud is bad. Then the people in the food line pretend that Bud is their child so he can eat with them even though he came late. The rule was you had to come to the food line before 7:00 or you couldn't eat. Those people were the first ones to be kind to Bud. My Mom and I agree that it was good that they broke the rules so that Bud could eat.

Bud has so many rules he probably forgets most of them. I think he only remembers the important ones. Mr. Calloway would have been better off if he didn't have so many rules and only followed the important ones.

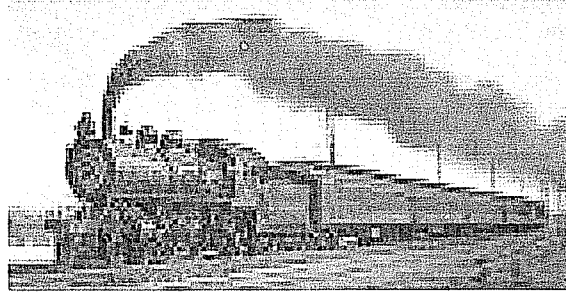
I thought Mr. Calloway was too strict and I didn't like him very much. He seemed harsh and mean and he thought that Bud stole his rocks. My mom thought he had a softer side because of how he was crying about his daughter.

I liked Bud. He lies sometimes but he has to. If he doesn't, it'll make his life worse. My mom said he was good hearted because of how he comforted Jerry, the six year old kid at the foster home. She was glad that Bud didn't shoot Todd; he only poured water on him to make him wet the bed. I never thought he would shoot Todd or the Amoses because that seemed too harsh a reaction even though Todd stuck a pencil up Bud's nose. That was the event in the book that stood out the most to

my mom. To me, the scene that stuck out the most was when Bud thought Lefty Lewis was a vampire and he drives off in his car. In general, my Mom and I liked the book.

By Alex Meyer

May 7, 2008



Tonight I had a conversation with my Dad about the book "Bud ,not Buddy ".

My Dad and I both like the part when the people from Hoversville were trying to get on a train but couldn't because of three police men.

People from Hooversville were trying to get a train to get jobs and improve their lives . More and more people gathered to catch the train out West .. Eventually the police realized that they were out numbered by 1 million to 3 and decided to leave !!

Everyone jumped on the train as fast as they could .Off to the West they went!! It was a great sense of freedom for the black people of Hooversville because they stood up for what they wanted !

This book proves that you can accomplish your goals if you put your mind to it .

For me it was amazing to see how one piece of paper could change his life !

by Harrison Palmer

Bud Not Buddy

By Garrett Shost

Bud Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis is a story about a boy named Bud who goes looking for his dad. Bud is an orphan in a home who goes to a foster family. The family is terribly mean to him and makes him sleep in a barn. Bud luckily escapes and walks to a place called Hooversville where he plans to travel west with his friend Bugs but misses the train west and continues walking north to Grand Rapids to search for his dad. On his way north Mr. Louis pulls over and persuades him to come with him. When Bud gets to Grand Rapids, he finds the person who he thought was his dad. He turns out to be Bud's grandfather.

My mom had read the story so we talked about it. We agreed and disagreed on different parts in the story. We both thought that Bud always kept his seed growing and never let it die. Bud always kept his dream of finding his father. He was persistent; he never gave up even during rough times. We both noticed he never wanted anyone looking in his suitcase.

We also disagreed on parts like the ending; I thought that it really didn't wrap up, and my mom thought that it was good. She thought ahead about Mr. Calloway and Bud's future. She thought that it would be tough for Mr. Calloway to be responsible for a kid since he wasn't used to being around one. My favorite part was different from my mom's favorite part. Her favorite part was when Bud got his instrument while my favorite part was how he managed at the Amos's and how he treated them. We also disagreed on our least favorite parts. I didn't like the ending because it didn't really wrap up. My mom didn't like the part in Hooversville because Bud didn't fit there; Bud had a life and a goal to reach while the people at Hooversville didn't really have a goal to reach so they just lived there.

I think that Bud is a good role model for people because he teaches people that it is a good idea to keep your seed growing and follow your dream even if it seems almost impossible. If you want to do something and you think that it is getting too hard, you should keep trying or until you find out it's totally impossible. Bud is also a good role model because he is a kind and caring person. Bud comforts Mr. Calloway when he's having rough time taking in all about his daughter's death.

Marianne Hansalik
Mr. Ferguson
May 4, 2008

Bud, Not Buddy

My mom and I had an interesting interview about Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis. The author does a great job making the reader feel the same emotions that Bud probably feels. In Bud, Not Buddy, my mom and I both felt certain emotions when Bud was in various situations. My mom always felt sympathetic for Bud when he was remembering his momma. It reminded her how much Bud was going through. I felt my stomach turn when Bud was hiding behind the bushes, and Lefty Louis was calling him. I was scared for Bud because I did not know if Lefty Louis was going to help him or bring him back to where he came from. I even felt like my hand was being bitten when Bud was locked in the shack and was stabbed by the fish head. We both felt sad when Mr. Calloway found out that his daughter was dead after so many years.

My mom and I both had similar opinions of Mr. Herman E. Calloway. When I read the book, I first thought that Mr. Calloway was a mean person, and I felt bad for Bud. My mom thought that there was something going on that we did not know about to make Mr. Calloway act the way he did. Later, we found out that he was stern but was nice deep down inside. For example, wherever Mr. Calloway went for a performance he always picked up a rock for his daughter. We felt both happy and sad for Mr. Calloway when he found out who Bud really was.

We really liked many things in this book. My mom enjoyed the "Rules and Things" because she learned that Bud had learned a lot in his lifetime, and he was smart. She thought it was good to see how a child thinks about what adults do. One thing I didn't really like was the part when the girl, Deza, kissed Bud. It seemed to me that it wasn't needed in the book. My mom likes stories and books that are set during different periods in history. I liked that the book took place during the Great Depression and that it was exciting. Not only that made me love Bud, Not Buddy. I think it was filled with adventure and exciting times for the reader and Bud, but it also had times when I felt so bad for Bud. Both my mom and I enjoyed this book greatly and wished the end had not come so soon.

Bud not Buddy

Me and Hadley both thought it was really mean that Todd's parents punished Bud for getting a pencil stuck up his nose up to the R. I think it was right for bud to make Todd wet his bed after all the mean things he had done to him. Hadley's favorite part in the book was the end when Bud got a saxophone. I, instead, liked the part when Bugs and Bud are in Hooversville. One thing we both agreed on was that the worst place Mr. Ferguson stopped reading was when Bud thought Mr. Lewis was a vampire and drove off in his car. We were both wondering if he was going to give it back or drive all the way to Grand Rapids. After reading the book I still wonder about the things they never told you in the book like Did Todd get in trouble for wetting his bed?, What happened to Bugs? and Did the foster home ever find out where Bud

was?

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Bud, Not Buddy Reflection

Mr. Ferguson and I both liked Bud, Not Buddy. A part of the book that stood out to Mr. Ferguson and me was Bud's kindness to other people, even though people were not always kind to him. For example, when Herman E. Calloway was mean to Bud because he thought Bud had stolen something of his, Bud stayed calm and was polite and kind. Sometimes when Bud was kind to people, it helped them stop being mean to him. I think kindness is important for the world, because if the whole world was unkind there would be an endless war.

Mr. Ferguson and I had different feelings about the ending. I thought the ending was abrupt and wanted to know more about Bud's father, like if he ever found him. Mr. Ferguson thought the book ended at the right spot after he met his grandfather. Bud's mom often told him that "when one door closes, another door opens." In the ending to Bud, Not Buddy, a door closed to finding his father, but a door opened to meeting his grandfather, growing up, living with family, and starting a new life.

Mr. Ferguson and I discussed Bud's personal qualities that made him a good friend. One example is when he was comforting a younger boy who was scared about being adopted into a family with three girls. Mr. Ferguson and I talked about how some of Bud's personal qualities were like some of my friends. Bud reminded me of Bryce and Jack. Bryce is calm like Bud. Bud was calm when he was with the band even when it was exciting. Bud is adventurous like Jack. Bud busted out of a shed, chased after a train, and walked down a highway. If I met Bud, I think we would be friends.

Mr. Ferguson and I really liked Bud, Not Buddy because Bud is kind, has good personal qualities, is a good friend, and follows through with what is best for him. Discussing the book with Mr. Ferguson helped me to think about the book in ways I hadn't before.

By Mckenna Cisler

Bud, Not Buddy: Reflection Piece

By: Nathan Sampo

I interviewed Mr. Ferguson for this assignment. I asked him many questions about the book "Bud, Not Buddy". He had many interesting comments and opinions about this book

Mr. Ferguson said he liked reading about how Bud grew up because Bud starts out young and full of adventure, and then you start to see a more serious side of him develop. I thought that was interesting because I could relate to Bud growing up, I notice that I can be more mature and serious now than when I was younger.

We both liked the part when the Amoses locked Bud up in the shed; it was one of the funny parts of the book. We both also liked the beginning of the book when Bud was in an orphanage because his mom died when he was six years old. It must have been a tough time for him, spending four years in an orphanage.

One question that Mr. Ferguson and I talked about was what makes a family work. I compared my family to Bud's families. For Bud, a family works when they are not mean to him, they treat him properly, they have love and care, and they take him in and accept him. All of those things are important to me in my family. I think love and acceptance are the most important things in making a family work for most people.

While talking about the book, Bud not Buddy, my mom and I found a very big fundamental about Bud going to the band as my mom said " it was as if Bud had brought a piece of his mother with him and after that it seemed as if Bud not Buddy became a part of them." And as we talked on together we discovered something else about Bud, he never hurt peoples feelings on purpose and that his manners held even if a grown up wasn't around. When I asked mom what she thought of Mr. Callaway she said "I think deep down he's a very good man but he didn't want any body getting to close to his heart like Buds mother and he worried that it would just to be broken again." I asked her another question soon after, what were your favorite and least favorite parts of the story. She said that her least favorite part was when the Amoses locked him up in the shed. Her favorite part was when Bud starts crying at the Sweet Pea and Miss Thomasm comforts him. Then she asked me the same question and I said that the shed part was my least favorite and my favorite was the scene was when Mr. Callaway realizes that Bud is his grand son. I asked her how this book was over all, she said "Through out the book you could feel what Bud was feeling like sadness, forgiveness and happiness" we both agreed that Bud not Buddy is an everybody wins book!!!

By, Dodge